

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:212

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016

Literacy

Chaudhury Shri Jitendra;Singh Shri Ravneet

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the UNESCO Report 2015 reveals that a considerable Indian population is illiterate and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any survey to assess literate population across the country and if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State/UT and year-wise;
- (c) the ratio between literate and illiterate people in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has signed any agreement with any Non-Governmental Organisations or foreign countries for promoting literacy in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve literacy rate in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 212 FOR 9.5.2016  
ASKED BY SHRI RAVNEET SINGH AND SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY REGARDING "LITERACY".

- (a) As per the "Education for All: Global Monitoring Report 2015" published by UNESCO, around 28.55 crore adult illiterates are reported in India. They constitute 36.5 per cent of world illiterates.
- (b) & (c) The literacy data in the country is collected through decennial census operation conducted by Registrar General of India. The last census was held in 2011. A statement indicating State/UT-wise number of literates, literacy and illiteracy rates, in 7 and above age group, as reported by Census 2011 is annexed.
- (d) No Madam.
- (e) In order to improve literacy rate, Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Adult Education and Skill Development is being implemented in rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one UT that had adult female literacy rate of 50 per cent and below as per Census 2001, and including left wing extremism affected districts, irrespective of their literacy rates, with special focus on women and other disadvantaged groups. In addition, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is also being implemented in conjunction with the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 for universalisation of elementary education for all children in the 6-14 age group.

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